



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS  
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 974-1465 or (213) 974-1431

FOUNDER  
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON  
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montano

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
Mrs. Helen H. Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio  
Mr. Vito Cannella  
Ms. Rita Hall  
Mr. John A. Hammargren  
Mr. Carl E. Moore

# **MINUTES OF THE** **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING** **DECEMBER 7, 2006**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Montano called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

## **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Chair Montano led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### **Present**

Chair Eleanor R. Montano  
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos  
Frank Bacio  
Vito Cannella  
Rita Hall  
John A. Hammargren  
Carl E. Moore

### **Others Present**

Jim Corbett, Assistant Chief, Commission Services Division  
Audra Galang, Commission Services Division

## **APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 29, 2006 MINUTES**

On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Moore, and unanimously carried, the minutes of November 29, 2006 were approved, with corrections as follows:

**Page 2, Lynwood Cal-Safe** (in second sentence, **ADD**) ...and poetry **classes**.

**Page 3, East Los Angeles Sheriff's Station, (ADD) Interior has been freshly painted.**

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Montano welcomed the wives of Commissioners Bacio, Cannella, Hammargren and Moore and thanked them for their support.

On behalf of the Commission, Chair Montano presented to the Commissioners with Certificates of Appreciation. She presented Certificates as well to the following staff members, Ms. Sandra Barbee, Mr. Jim Corbett and Ms. Audra Galang.

Ms. Sandra Barbee, Chief of Commission Services Division, presented Mrs. Eleanor Montano a Commendation Scroll from Supervisor Don Knabe of the 4<sup>th</sup> District signed by all five Supervisors.

Chair Montano remarked on newspaper articles relating to L.A. County jails and also reported on the funerals held for all those who died in the County and whose bodies were not claimed.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Bacio reported the current balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$1,159.

## **STAFF REPORT**

Mr. Corbett, Assistant Chief of Commission Services Division, reported the following:

1. A fax message from World Vision Donor Service in Los Angeles for Unilever was received stating that their procedure has changed this year. A silver membership fee of \$100 a year is now needed to ask for a donation. Commissioners agreed not to participate in this program.
2. The 2007 Meeting Schedule was shared with the Commissioners and departments' representatives.
3. Draft letters to Ms. Patricia Ploehn, Director of DCFS as the speaker for January 2007 and to Miss Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors, as the speaker for February 2007 have been prepared.
4. The Certificate of Appreciation and a birthday card for Ms. Sherry Scates were mailed. Because of her illness, she excused herself from the Christmas Party.
5. He reported former Commissioner James Cragin is very ill from cancer and would appreciate calls or visits. Staff was asked to prepare a get well card for Mr. Cragin.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Chair Montano shared with the Commissioners an invitation from Aviva Family and Children's Services 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on February 15, 2007 at the Sportsmen's Lodge, 4234 Coldwater Canyon, Studio City. She asked Commissioners to think about it

and report their attendance at this conference next year. The topic is "Critical Issues of Adolescence".

## **FACILITY/GROUP HOME INSPECTION REPORTS**

### **Long Beach Court**

Chair Montano and Commissioner Hammargren inspected this court on December 4, 2006, observed and noted areas of concern. The daily maintenance is a major problem. The area is very dirty. It has no proper ventilation in Sally Port and no exhaust fan. The gate cannot be opened. At the second floor, there is no water in the restroom and the toilet won't work. The walls are dirty and crumbling. It is very unhealthy for the staff working there. The State is negotiating with the County regarding taking over the maintenance and upkeep of the facility. However, there is no resolution as the State wants the County to do all the repairs before taking over. It appears that the State is considering building a new courthouse altogether.

The letter to Sheriff Baca will be prepared by Chair Montano. A copy will be sent to Chief of Staff Curt Pederson of the Office of Supervisor Knabe and also to Mr. John Van Whervin of the Superior Court.

### **Dream Home Care, Inc.**

Chair Montano and Commissioner Hammargren inspected this brand-new facility on December 5, 2006 and found it is a good home with caring staff. They noted some areas of concern. The driveway needs patching and two vents need replacement or repair.

### **Optimist Home – 81, #3**

Chair Montano and Commissioner Hammargren inspected this facility on November 30, 2006 and found it in good condition. It was given a rating of **Excellent**.

### **Arrowhead Home – 3, #4**

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on November 30, 2006 and found it was **closed**.

### **Arrowhead Home – 3, #5**

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on November 30, 2006 and found it was **closed**.

### **Altadena Sheriff's Station**

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on December 4, 2006 and found it is in good condition. The areas of concern were noted. There is a hole in the microwave oven door causing a possible radiation leak. They cannot use station's funds for a new unit. The Sally port needs better lighting.

### **Camp Afflerbaugh and Paige**

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited these facilities on December 6, 2006. They reported that Senator Bob Margett had come to give an inspirational talk. It was

a very uplifting and encouraging message called, "Know How to Read and Write". They also observed that staff members were not wearing uniforms.

#### **East Los Angeles Court**

Commissioners Moore, Hall and Bacio visited this court on November 30, 2006 and found it to be in good condition.

#### **Downey Courthouse**

Commissioners Moore, Hall and Bacio visited this court on November 5, 2006 and found some areas of concern. They observed and noted that the Sally Port gate is broken and not operative. There is a need for an additional lock-up deputy to assist with releases. Deputies need to be live-scanned.

#### **Whittier Courthouse**

Commissioners Bacio and Hall visited this courthouse on December 6, 2006 and found areas of concern. There is an urgent need to fix the broken video camera at the outside lock-up area. The air-conditioning unit needs to be fixed, as it was so cold in various areas of the facility. There is a need for additional three lock-up deputies. One air tank needs to be completely filled.

#### **NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Montano shared inspection assignments with the Commissioners for the following week.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

#### **MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)**

There were none.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Montano adjourned the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jim Corbett*

Assistant Chief, Commission Services Division